

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9, and 11 have been amended by the present amendment. The amendments to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,026,297 to Haartsen (hereinafter “Haartsen ‘297”), U.S. Publ. No. 2003/0035388 to Schmidt, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0076842 to Johansson; Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haartsen ‘297, U.S. Patent No. 7,016,372 to Haartsen (hereinafter “Haartsen ‘372”), Schmidt, and Johansson; Claims 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haartsen ‘297, Haartsen ‘372, and Johansson; and Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haartsen ‘297, Haartsen ‘372, Johansson, and Schmidt; and Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haartsen ‘297, Schmidt, Johansson, and Haartsen ‘372.

Applicants’ Claim 1 is directed to a method to provide additional bandwidth for a wireless ad hoc network configured to operate in a certain communication channel with a certain amount of available bandwidth comprising a plurality of wireless terminals, the method comprising in part:

checking by a central controller of said wireless ad hoc network whether more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals;

¹ See, e.g., page 4, lines 1-12, of Applicants’ specification.

splitting up said wireless ad hoc network such that at least one additional wireless ad hoc network is spawned, if more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals, and

allocating additional bandwidth to the wireless ad hoc network or to the at least one additional wireless ad hoc network, wherein

after the splitting up of said wireless ad hoc network, at least one wireless terminal of said wireless ad hoc network and/or one or more new wireless terminals belong(s) to said at least one additional wireless ad hoc network, and

said at least one additional wireless ad hoc network is operating in a respective different communication channel.
[Emphasis Added].

Claim 1 clarifies that, if more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals, then the wireless ad hoc network is split up such that *at least one additional wireless ad hoc network is spawned (i.e., generated)*. Further, Claim 1 clarifies that additional bandwidth is allocated to the wireless ad hoc network or to the at least one additional wireless ad hoc network, and at least one wireless terminal of the wireless ad hoc network belongs to the at least one additional wireless ad hoc network. Finally, Claim 1 clarifies that the at least one additional wireless ad hoc network operates in a communication channel different from the communication channel in which the wireless ad hoc network operates.

The Office Action rejects independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claim 1 for the following reasons.

Haartsen '297 is directed to enabling wireless units to contemporaneously participate in communications taking place in more than one piconet at a time, such that, three piconets A, B, C are present and there is a unit X that contemporaneously participates as a slave in all

three piconets.² Further, as is illustrated in Fig. 3a of Haartsen '297, a unit may become master or slave of another *existing* piconet in which the unit has formerly not participated.

Nevertheless, the Office will appreciate that, as a result of this participation, the total number of piconets is *not* changed. That is, applying the teachings of Haartsen '297 does *not* support a conclusion that at least one additional wireless ad hoc network is spawned or generated due to the participation of the unit in the another existing piconet.

Thus, Haartsen '297 does *not* disclose or suggest splitting up said wireless ad hoc network such that at least one additional wireless ad hoc network is spawned, as asserted in the Office Action.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Haartsen '297 does *not* disclose or suggest allocating additional bandwidth to the wireless ad hoc network or to the at least one additional wireless ad hoc network, as clarified in Claim 1.

Furthermore, the Office Action acknowledges that Haartsen '297 fails to disclose or suggest providing additional bandwidth if more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals. Rather, the Office Action relies on Haartsen '372 for such teachings.

Haartsen '372 simply describes that the network has a fixed bandwidth, and that the master in the network may be allocated different bandwidths to a specific slave. However, there is *no* disclosure in Haartsen '372 that additional bandwidth is allocated to Haartsen '372's network.

² See Haartsen '297, column 2, lines 38-54.

Thus, Haartsen '372 does **not** disclose or suggest providing additional bandwidth to the ad hoc network if more than a certain amount of bandwidth is required by the plurality of wireless terminals, as asserted in the Office Action.

Finally, Applicants respectfully submit that Schmidt does **not** disclose or suggest checking by a central controller of said wireless ad hoc network whether more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals, because Schmidt simply relates to a fixed network comprising a base station as well as mobile stations, but does not relate to an ad hoc network. Thus, it is **not** the central controller of said wireless ad hoc networks, in Schmidt, that checks whether more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals.

In summary, Applicants respectfully submit that Schmidt or Johansson, alone or in combination, does not remedy the above discussed deficiencies of Haartsen '297 and Haartsen '372. No matter how the teachings of Haartsen '297, Haartsen '372, Schmidt, and Johansson are combined the combination does **not** disclose or suggest checking by a central controller of said wireless ad hoc network whether more bandwidth than said certain amount of available bandwidth is required by said plurality of wireless terminals, splitting up said wireless ad hoc network such that at least one additional wireless ad hoc network is spawned, or allocating additional bandwidth to the wireless ad hoc network or to the at least one additional wireless ad hoc network, as clarified in Claim 1.

The above discussion regarding independent Claim 1 also applies to independent Claim 9, which recites analogous features in a claim of a different scope.

Accordingly, based on all the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claims 1 and 9 (and associated dependent claims 2-6 and 10) be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects independent Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haartsen '297, Haartsen '372, and Johansson.

Further, The Office Action acknowledges that Haartsen '297 fails to disclose that a confirmation command is used by a request wireless terminal to signal that it can move to said at least one new ad hoc wireless network. Rather, the Office Action relies on Haartsen '372 for such teachings.

However, Haartsen '372 is simply directed to one wireless network comprising a master terminal and several slave terminals. Therefore, since there is *no* disclosure in Haartsen '372 of another wireless network, Haartsen '372 does not disclose or suggest that a confirmation command is used by a request wireless terminal to signal that it can move to said at least one new ad hoc wireless network, as recited in Claim 7.

Furthermore, the Office Action acknowledges that a combination of Haartsen '297 and Haartsen '372 fails to disclose a command to leave said wireless ad hoc network. Rather, the Office Action relies on Johansson to disclose this feature.

In paragraphs [0069]-[0070], Johansson refers to a JUMP node, in which there is an agreement as to the start time of an inter-piconet communication session. Therefore, a JUMP

node does not receive a requesting *command* to ask the wireless terminal to move to a new ad hoc wireless network and to leave said wireless ad hoc network. Rather, according to paragraphs [0074]-[0075] of Johansson, there is an agreement, or a common pseudo random sequence, or an agreement upon time when the inter-piconet communication session starts.

Thus, no matter how the teachings of Haartsen '297, Haartsen '372 and Johansson are combined, the combination does *not* disclose or suggest that the receiving unit is configured to receive a requesting command to ask the wireless terminal to move to a new ad hoc wireless network and to leave said wireless ad hoc network, as recited in Claim 7.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teachings of Haartsen '297, Haartsen '372 and Johansson do *not* disclose or suggest the sending unit configured to send out a confirmation command (...) to signal that the wireless terminal can move to said new wireless network, as recited in Claim 7.

Accordingly, even if a skilled person were to combine the teaching of Haartsen '297, Haartsen '372 and Johansson, the combined teachings do *not* disclose or suggest the above discussed features of Claim 7, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claim 7 (and associated dependent Claim 8) be withdrawn.

The above discussion regarding independent Claim 7 also applies to independent Claim 11, which recites analogous features in a claim of a different scope.

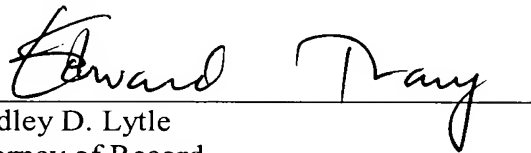
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward Tracy", is written over a horizontal line.

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